

Message Text

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60

ORIGIN MBFR-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 ACDA-19 IO-13 NEA-10

OMB-01 EB-11 /140 R

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 181638

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: CONTINGENCY PRESS GUIDANCE

1. IN THE COURSE OF GATHERING MATERIAL FOR A STORY ON

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MBFR, LOS ANGELES TIMES REPORTER TOTH HAS INDICATED TO A

DEPARTMENT OFFICER THAT HE UNDERSTANDS US MAY PROPOSE REDUCTIONS IN TWO STAGES; THE FIRST STAGE TO BE A 15 PERCENT REDUCTION IN US AND SOVIET FORCES AND THE SECOND STAGE A 700,000 MAN COMMON CEILING. THE DEPARTMENT OFFICER SAID THAT DECISIONS HAD NOT YET BEEN TAKEN BY THE US AND ITS ALLIES. TOTH DID NOT INDICATE HOW OR WHEN HE INTENDS TO USE THE MATERIAL, BUT IT MUST BE ASSUMED THAT IT MAY BE PUBLISHED SOON.

2. IN THE EVENT OF PUBLICATION AND POSSIBLE QUESTIONS ON THIS TOPIC, YOU SHOULD REPLY ALONG LINES: "THIS TYPE OF QUESTION DEALS WITH THE GENERAL ISSUE OF POSSIBLE APPROACHES WHICH THE ALLIES MIGHT TAKE IN THE MBFR NEGOTIATIONS WHICH BEGIN ON OCTOBER 30. THE WESTERN NEGOTIATING POSITION FOR MBFR CONTINUES TO BE THE SUBJECT OF DISCUSSION AMONG THE ALLIES. IT THUS WOULD BE INAPPROPRIATE TO MAKE ANY COMMENTS ON THIS TOPIC." RUSH

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Drafter: RBARAZ:SAS
Enclosure: n/a
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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